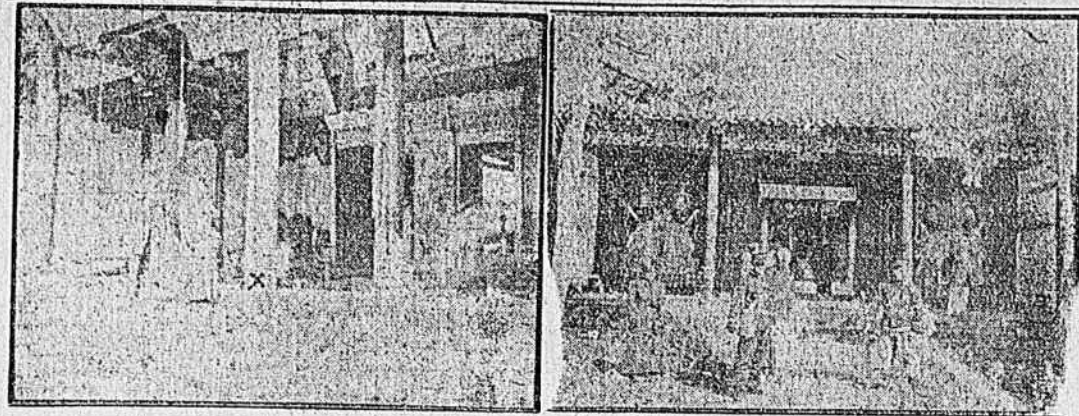


Capture of Hangchow by Revolutionists; Change of Government Pleases People



Tartar general's yamen, in the Tartar city, in Hangchow, China. An x is just below a hole made by a cannon ball in a pillar in one of the buildings in the yamen. Dr. J. L. Stuart and Miss Boardman, of the Southern Presbyterian Mission, are standing by it.

Miss Annie R. V. Wilson, formerly of Richmond, who is now at the Southern Presbyterian Mission in Hangchow, China, writes the following interesting sketch of the recent conflict there. The pictures illustrating the story were taken by Miss Wilson by permission of the revolutionists after the surrender of the Manchus.

Hangchow, China, November 7.—Since the eyes of the world are turned on China at this time, I thought it might be interesting to the readers of The Times-Dispatch to hear something of recent happenings in Hangchow, at one time, many hundreds of years ago, the capital of the empire, and at this time one of China's important cities and a provincial capital.

For several weeks Hangchow has been in a state of unrest, and we all felt that something would happen sooner or later, but did not know it was to come so soon.

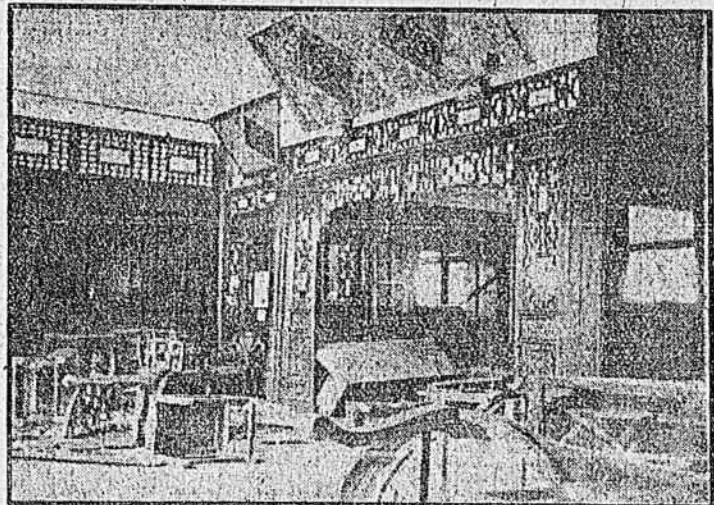
The Manchus, commonly called here the Tar-tar City, a walled city within the walls of Hangchow, was supposed by the Chinese to be well prepared for an attack, and reports that they had placed four large guns on their city walls, and that they were in a panic, and began to leave the city at the rate of thousands a day, until more than half the population had gone.

On the streets it was pitiful to see the frightened countenances of men, women and children, and they constantly asked if we foreigners were afraid. It did seem to give them some comfort and courage to see us calmly going back and forth on the streets, and when they asked if we were going away, we told them not until Consul Wilber, and the people of Hangchow, leave, and therefore some took heart, and felt that perhaps after all, things were not so bad as they seemed. This shows the confidence they place in foreigners.

Fearful Trouble.

Many prominent Chinese feared great trouble in Hangchow when the conflict should begin, because 200 years ago, when the Manchus entered Hangchow, there was an unmerciful massacre of the Chinese for ten days, and sixty years ago, during the Taiping Rebellion, again there was a three days' carnage, and they felt that it would be an opportunity for revenge on the Manchus, and that blood would be shed freely, but the large portion of the citizens were more fearful that the big guns of the Manchus would destroy the city, and so

Entrance to the Tartar general's yamen, in Tartar city, Hangchow, China. The four figures painted on the wall on either side of the entrance are very lifelike. The two soldiers are revolutionists.



This is all that remains of one of the reception rooms in the Tartar general's yamen. Over the grill work hangs a gift from the late old Dowager Empress to the general. From right to left, the Chinese characters are "foh," meaning "happiness," and "ze," meaning "long life or old age." There were many imperial gifts in different buildings in this yamen.

ple still thought the forces inside between these and other startling rumors, this great city of 300,000 was in a state of consternation for days. Saturday, November 4, though we foreigners were not conscious of new alarm, the Chinese seemed to be, and continued to pour out of the city in great numbers. The people have been so wildly excited and so many rumors have been set afloat, it has been hard to get at the real truth regarding the situation, but this much is sure, after all this alarm and flight, on Sunday morning, November 5, between midnight and 3 o'clock, the revolutionary soldiers in two camps without the city, joined by a camp in the city and 300 soldiers from Shanghai, making a total of 7,000, had opened several of the city gates, marched in quietly, surrounded the Governor's yamen, and also surrounded the Tar-tar city. The first we knew of it was when the firing of guns and the screams of frightened women and children attracted me to the window, and one of the servants told me fighting was going on at the Drien-dang gate, at the main entrance to the Tar-tar city, and not far from our compound.

A few minutes we saw that the Governor's yamen was burning. Many people in the city slept peacefully through all this commotion, though the firing continued until morning. At daylight there was great rejoicing among the Chinese, when they learned that Hangchow was in the hands of the revolutionists, but the Manchus or Tar-tar city had not surrendered, and the people still thought the forces inside were well armed, and thought at some time during Sunday there would be quite a conflict, and we were advised not to leave the compound all day.

Well Under Control.

The revolutionists wisely armed the police and forbade assembling of crowds and kept things well under control, while they awaited an answer from the Tar-tar general regarding surrender. All day rumors were coming of gruesome happenings, of having seen three human heads thrown over the Tar-tar city wall, that the Chinese who were living in the Tar-tar city had been killed, etc., all of which we find now were groundless rumors, but at 4 o'clock in the afternoon firing of cannon began again, and we knew it would not be possible for the Manchus to hold out long. When we awoke on Monday morning we found Hangchow not only under the new flag, but the Manchus in the hands of the revolutionists, an astonishing compassion being meted out to the conquered, upon whom so much vengeance had been said would be poured out. We are told now that as soon as they took the city, they sent in food for the people, and the gates of the Manchus city were opened, and all who wished to do so were invited to come out. Of course, all arms and ammunition was taken from them, and relic hunters would have been interested to see those ancient looking weapons of warfare. The Tar-tar general had fled, if indeed he was

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there, but some seem to think he had not been there for some time. Though his home and headquarters were not destroyed by the revolutionists, they were looted by some of the untrained soldiers and people who came in, and the furniture was broken up.

When we remember how the Chinese have been oppressed by the Manchu dynasty for nearly 300 years; how the whole Manchu race have been pensioned by the Chinese people, no wonder that they have been aroused to revolt. What there is in future for China it would be hard for any one to say—some want a republic, some want a limited monarchy, but all want to get rid of the Manchu dynasty.

Carefully Planned.

One can easily see that this rebellion has been carefully planned, and is being warily carried out, and the revolutionists are certainly as far as this section of China is concerned, thus carrying out their plan of making it as far as possible "a bloodless revolution." In this conflict at Hangchow, which was lasted only from Sunday morning before daylight to Sunday midnight, there was altogether only seven killed and eleven wounded. A remarkably small number. Hangchow was no sooner taken, than they immediately set to work to restore peace and order, and proclamations to that effect that any raising of mobs, or violence of any sort would be promptly punished by death; that mission property and foreigners were to be protected, and business resumed at once, so that these "terrorized" people and themselves suddenly under a new regime, with prospects of better times, and we are happy to note the change of expressions on the countenances, and joy has taken the place of fear. Such have been the experiences we have had recently.

Whatever the future may hold for the Chinese, and for us, in these reconstruction times we cannot tell, but up to this present time everything has been well planned and carried out, and the Chinese deserve great praise for the way in which it was all managed. It shows wisdom and courage.

For those in the homeland who have felt that bringing the Gospel to these heathen was a waste of time and money, can they not see that it is a people worth while this expenditure? The Bible teaches individual liberty and obedience to conscience, and we feel that Christian principles underlie such a revolution as this. Some of these men have been educated in America and Europe, and though not many perhaps are Christians themselves, they see what Christianity has done for Christian countries. China if Christianized, will be a power to be reckoned with, and a power to be feared, but of they have Western civilization without the principles that make for righteousness, then may the world dread the "yellow peril."

Confidence in Christianity.

An instance that shows the confidence they have in Christianity here, was seen early Sunday morning, before the Manchus camp surrendered. Two Manchus had made their escape from their city and were hiding in a straw hut. A Christian Chinese pastor, Mr. Sang, found them and offered to help them escape out of Hangchow. All the gates of Hangchow were locked and the only means of escape would be over the city wall from thirty to forty feet high. When he made this offer they refused to follow him; thinking he would betray them into the hands of the enemy, but as soon as he told them he was a Christian, quickly consented and went with him.

Since writing the above, the new commandant in Hangchow has sent a delegation to call on our mission here to assure us of their protection and good will.

What a striking contrast to 300 years in 1900, when the missionaries' lives were in jeopardy.

I beg the Christian readers of this letter to remember China in earnest, importunate prayer, and to do all in their power for the spread of the Gospel in this great land, which for thousands of years, has been bound in the darkness of heathenism, but is now

awaking to the light of the truth, as the Hot Springs special, with which they continued to New York.

ANNIE R. V. WILSON.
Hangchow, China.

HOT SPRINGS

Hot Springs, Va., December 3.—A streak of weather like Indian summer struck Hot Springs several days ago, and visitors have been basking in sunshine free from chilling breezes, while leading of the snow storms in the North.

John Wanamaker concluded a short visit here on the day of the announcement that he had been made a member of the Legion of Honor of France. He spent Thanksgiving holidays visiting Mrs. Lewis Nelson, of Philadelphia, who has been taking her annual course of bat, at the Springs, left the forepart of the week. Mr. Nelson, who is secretary of the Pennsylvania Railroad, came down in a private car the day before, and with Mrs. Nelson, gave a little dinner party aboard, or Mrs. C. L. Eerie, of Philadelphia, who went away with them.

George W. Stevens, president of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, also had a private car party here this week. It included Edwin Hawley, Frank Turnwell, N. J. Caples and Chiswell Tabney Langhorne. After spending a day here, they left for Cincinnati on a special, spending a few hours there, and coming back to Clifton Forge, where they had their car attached to

the Hot Springs special, with which they continued to New York.

Tramping along the many trails that have been cut through the mountains in every direction from Hot Springs is becoming little short of a task. Among the longer walks visitors here made this week was a tramp Mrs. Edward Ingalls, of New York, took around Dunns Gap, a distance of seven miles. Mrs. R. N. Hinkley of New York, walked out to the property Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont purchased when she was last here, and Miss Elizabeth Sinnickson, of Philadelphia who returned Thursday night after a long visit here, walked with Miss Dorothy Williams, of Washington, and J. Clifford Rosengotten, of Philadelphia, clear around warm Springs Mountain to the Cascades and return, a distance of nearly fifteen miles.

Mrs. M. H. Forrest and her sons, H. M. Forrest, and Richard Forrest, who spent the entire fall season at "the Hot," as the natives designate this place, left for Bon Air Thursday. Mrs. Forrest, who is the well known Lakewood golfer, is in ill health, and the family have taken a cottage there until things shall have become more lively in Palm Beach, when they will again go down to the breakers for the winter. Richard Forrest will make a trip to Florida in the meantime to attend Henry M. Flagler's birthday celebration.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville E. Babcock, stopped off here on their way back to Chicago, from New York, where they exhibited at the horse show, and have been riding daily, their favorite ride being cross-country to Fossilfern Farm, where they have gone for lunch several times.

Mrs. Rodman Wanamaker, who joined Mrs. John Wanamaker here a few

days ago, spends much of her time driving. On Thursday she entertained at luncheon at Fossilfern Farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Melville E. Ingalls, closed Inglescott Monday and left for Washington, aboard a private car. They have leased their Cincinnati home and taken a house for the winter at the capital.

A sort of farewell party to a number of young men and women who have been having an especially lively time here, took place the other evening under the pageda in the Japanese room. There was a light supper and then dancing of the Virginia reel, to the accompaniment of music by jubilee players. The company included Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ingalls, Miss Ruth Stillman, Miss Abbie Ingalls, Barnard, Miss Beatrice Gordon Pratt, and Richard Forrest, Malcolm Slesne and M. T. Pyne, Jr.

Colonel J. M. Peters, of Philadelphia, who left Hot Springs on horseback, bound for Washington some time ago, completed the trip as he had intended, and averaged more than fifty miles a day. His friends here learned the details from H. T. Thornton, who accompanied him and who got back this week. The distance is about 300 miles, and the riders arrived five and a half days after they had left here. One remarkable fact in connection with the trip is that one of the saddle horses used is twenty-two years old. John Philip Sousa took seven days to make the same ride several years ago. It is one that several visitors here have attempted, but which few have finished.

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